

Hello, Zebulon Elementary Families,

This is Principal Newkirk with the update for the week of August 22, 2023

Popsicles in the Park

This year the teacher meet and greet will be contained entirely outside. The back door to the cafeteria will be open to pay lunch fees and to resolve transportation issues and get carpool tags. Otherwise, the building and classrooms will be off limits. There will be an Open House September 13 at 6:00 PM where families will be invited into the school. Kindergarten and Pre-K teachers will reach out to their families for the day and time of their Meet and Greet events.

Bus Transportation

By now you have heard that our transportation department is still trying to hire and onboard additional bus drivers. I do not know exactly how this shortage will impact drivers at Zebulon Elementary School, but I do expect some delays, especially the first week of school as the drivers become familiar with their routes.

This year, all students will receive a carpool number. Siblings will share the same number and these numbers will follow students through 5th grade. If a student who normally rides a bus needs to be picked up in carpool, we ask that families use the carpool tag given out at the beginning of the school year.

School Start Times

School begins promptly at 8:30 AM and the building opens for students at 8:00 AM. It is imperative that students arrive to school before the 8:30 tardy bell. Students who are chronically tardy will be contacted by Mr. Hailey, the school social worker.

Before and After School Care

Any parent interested in Before or After School care should email me at dbnewkirk@wcpss.net. Many parents have expressed interest and we are 4 students short for AM care and 5 students shy in PM care.

If you are interested in either or both of these programs please email me directly at dbnewkirk@wcpss.net. The school bookkeeper is setting up the online payment system

and we hope to start collecting money before the end of the week. As a reminder, we need 30 students minimum to run each program.

New Procedures to Enter the School

Beginning this year all WCPSS schools will implement the same process for entering school buildings. These protocols are designed to keep our schools and students safe. I am thankful for the understanding and support I receive from the community anytime we heighten our security protocols.

This year, visitors to the building will scan a QR code outside before entering the building and take a picture of your license. You will wait outside while a criminal background check is completed and once you are cleared, the door will be opened only for the person who was just cleared. Each visitor to the building is required to complete the process.

Yours,

David Newkirk, Principal

August 25 Popsicles in the Park

August 28 First Day of School

